STUDIES OF ITS PRESENT LIFE.

By personal experience or by observation Mr. Dawson seems to have studied every phase of German life for himself. While he writes as a foreigner, it is as a foreigner who has put himself in the place of those whom he aims to describe. He has endeavored successfully to avoid generalities in discussing the traits of the people for the reason that ready-made theories would not apply to a population so diverse in origin as that which overspreads the twenty-six States of the German Empire. Naturally he begins with a plea. He appeals to stelld, practical Englishmen on a point where they are most apt Great had impressed upon Prussia and the foreign nation."

Hopeless of national unity, the Germans of the age preceding the Napoleonic wars pretended to despise it, and that is why those wars were, in Mr. Dawson's opinion, a blessing in disguise. "Germany needed a shock; she needed to be pulled together, to be reminded of what she was, had been, should be; and the shock and the reminder, rude as they were, proved her salvation." Almost the whole movement toward German unity is within the memory of men still living. Patriotism is naturally fresh and effusive in such a case. The children are taught it from the cradle, and in school they are reminded of it wherever they turn. They learn modern history and particularly the history of Germany as no children ever before learned the history of the recent past. To this result have contributed the most significant forces in literature. Mr. Dawson dorff, Scheukendorff, Uhland, Müller, Schlegel, Rhine." These poets expressed every thought of the German heart, its eagerness for battle, its

The practical result of the wistfulness of the people was the creation of a nation of soldiers. Mr. Dawson is far from condemning the univarsal obligation to military service. He sees the effect of the withdrawal of so many young men from productive occupations, but he points out repeatedly that in spite of this supposed out repeatedly that in spite of this supposed to the plish that the future of Germany is steadily advancing to the plish that the future of Germany is to be seen front rank in business. The race is not always to the swift, he suggests, and the German tortolse even now acts as if hopeful of overtaking the English hare. What more than compen-Between the ploughboy when he enters the for life, he has attained self-control, and he has learned to obey. Nor, as a rule, has he felt the enforced service a disagrecable burden. He knows that all others, high or low, have to endure the same thing, and this impartial fate is less burdensome to him on that account. Mr. Dawson found that workingmen, as well as every other class, were proud and fond of the They recall the incidents of their owt service with delight. Even the military aristocracy constituted by the officers, though apparently an anomaly in an army which comprises all the citizens able to bear arms, Mr Dawson defends from the popular side.

Doubtless it is this pervasive military spiri which makes patriarchal government possible to the extent known in Germany. A nation used to obedience willingly endures the oversight and management of grade upon grade of officials, from the policeman upward. The indicourt life of the old chaotic Germany. The law The artist is a sculptor, a painter or a musician, who may seem to the foreign visitor little beta restraint whose principal cause lies in themselves. If they would, they might be as free ing, and they can open the door if they will. The wife shares the life of her husband both at home and abroad to a degree unknown in many other countries. Indeed, to such an extent is this true that the home life of the family has heartly and escorted him to the palace." begun to suffer of recent years. Narrow houses and high rents have stimulated the practice of (perhaps), a dining-room, two bedrooms and a kitchen exhaust the capacity of the dwelling." says our author; "there is here little comfort for and other accessories becomes the resort of if home were what it ought to be." Thus is brought against the German, once famous for his to the West of the Mississippi without an accimade upon the Frenchman. But this is equivalent really to saying that the traditional habits least by the vast growth of such a city as together in point of time and were enough to Berlin, in which the simple habits of former times are impossible.

If we may judge from this book, the most obpoint of view has been the higher education. The defect has been, however, one of over-pro-slaughter which General Scott had to repress,

more and more teaching of modern languages. Maine men. In these the German has indeed long been busy. One of the most remarkable of Scott's exploits because of their industrious study of modern languages.

German idealism becomes daily more practical. Technical education is becoming more general.

The hope of rivalling England in commerce and began to agitate for separation from Engseems to be nearer than it was. Germany aims land. People along the barder in the United until it was too late. Mr. Campbell thinks that she not, in fact, be published before April. now to be rich as well as philosophical and States sympathized with them to such an extentional looked upon Coleridge as a clever bay, while touches with a loving hand the works of the practical. As her achievements in war were the that the President had to issue a proclamation lyric poets, of Korner, Arndt, Rückert, Eichencesses in trade. Her true emblem in every department of life is the laborious student who Arnim, Kerner, Hinkel, Kleist, of Becker with his one song. "The German Rhine," and Max Schneckenburger, author of the "Wacht am Rhine." These poets expressed every thought of Empire must develop in all directions. Its evoas to what should be done, the land the Empire must develop in all directions. Its evolution goes forward more slowly, but not less surely in polities than in commerce. Mr. Dawthe German heart, its eagerness for battle, its stern determination to be trodden down no longer, its melancholy willingness to die.

Surely, in politics than in commerce. Mr. Dawson's study of political life, of constitutions and of parties, it am expansion of the prophecy of Prince Elsmarck that the nation could not stand they furnish only one of the forces which are impelling the Empire toward its predestined goal. It is not in what any one party means to accom-

Not the least interesting part of Mr. Dawson's tetes Germany for all this computed loss of productive labor is the change which takes place in the multitude which passes, year after year, under the hands of the drill master. The rigorous tests of hardihood and endurance establish and the productive labor is the change which passes, year after year, under the hands of the drill master. The rigorous tests of hardihood and endurance establish and the productive labor is the change which passes with the lives of the Emperor william II. Frederick II and William II. Moltke and Prince Bismarck, as the makers of Germany. Because the first Emperor chose, such profoundly capable men to carry on the work has had at heart, his own reputation as a statesman has suffered. We have a statesman has suffered with the lives of the boundary in the productive labor is the change which takes place in the multitude which passes, year after year, under the hands of the drill master. The rigorous tests of hardihood and endurance establish a man's physical condition for life; they build up the weak and perfect the strong, while the physically incapable are relieved of them.

The physically incapable are relieved of them. Between the ploughboy when he enters the heart was expressed almost a generation before army for his three years' service, with his the war with France. It was he who chose a man "abreast with the age," practical in re-form, with a "personality at least as strong as that of any contemporary ruler."

WINFIELD SCOTT.

A NEW BIOGRAPHY OF A GREAT SOLDIER.

GENERAL SCOTT. By General Marcus J. Wright,

Pp. xii., 30, D. Appleton & Commanders Series.) If one were asked to mention any military achievement of an earlier time in America comparable with Scott's march from Vera Cruz to Mexico, he would surely think only of Greene's tween Southern Virginia and Charleston. If the enemy with whom Greene had to deal was meagre in numbers, he was infinitely more vidual citizen knows that as a rule this official dangerous than Mexicans as a fighting opponent. care is systematically well-meant. Perhaps the | On the other hand, Greene moved through a punctillous anxiety in the matter of titles has friendly country, while Scott had more to fear been stimulated by the example of the army. from the hostility of the population than from the armies in his front. Greene could be beaten in every battle and yet win at last, while a is sometimes appealed to against those who with- single reverse for Scott might have brought about hold a proper salutation, and in the society of the destruction of his whole force. Greene, near small towns, says Mr. Dawson, the formality of the close of the Revolution, was dealing with a titles is observed to the point of childishness. for who had plenty of fight in him and was well Thus he observes that a newspaper in Munich disciplined, but who had lost hope of final sucrecently recorded the death of the Royal Court | cess, Scott was opposed by soldiers who had Theatre Color-grinder's Assistant's wife. But every cause for hope, but were apparently inthere is one thing worth noting about all titles, capable of enthusiasm. With an army that whether sensible or absurd, in Germany; they lessened gradually from twelve thousand to half are rightfully acquired. A man does not-as he or less than half that number, Scott pressed to may in England or America-call himself a the very centre of an enemy's country, and with doctor unless he has a right to do so. There six thousand men took a capital defended by are no professors without claim upon the title. 20,000. The Duke of Wellington, as General Wright remarks in his careful biography of Scott. thought success impossible. He had each day's As to all these points the constraint of German march indicated on a map, and when he saw social life is more apparent than real. This that the American general had arrived at the rim is particularly true of the condition of women, of the basin of Mexico he exclaimed, "Scott is lost. He has been carried away by successes, ter than slaves, but who are, in Mr. Dawson's He can't take the city and he can't fall back opinion, "more self-depreciated than depreciated upon his base." Scott did both. He took the by the other sex. They are unconsciously under capital, he ruled the country, and he departed from it without any untoward events except those brought upon him by his own officers. Aside as air to-merrow, for the cage that confines from the soldiery, the Mexican people hailed him them is, in part at any rate, of their own mak- rather as a friend than an enemy. When he entered Puebla, says his blographer, "along the streets through which he passed the balconies were filled with Mexican ladies and the avenues crowded with men. The populace cheered him

General Wright's painstaking book is open to criticism from a literary point of view; but it is resorting to the restaurants. "A drawing-room all that could be desired as a record of facts, and it reveals anew the character and genius of a man who possessed the qualities of a civil leader as well as of a military hero. The imthe elders and no facility at all for entertaining aginations of his countrymen were turned alfriends, and thus the restaurant with its garden | most exclusively to his soldierly renown. They saw in him the victor of Chippewa and Lundy's thousands of people who would stay at home | Lane and the conqueror of Mexico, but not the skilful man of peace who removed the Cherokees domesticity, the same criticism which used to be | dent | and | who | almost | single-handed | kept | the peace on the northern border from Detroit to Maine, when a war with England seemed inof Germans must be modified for a time at evitable. The two achievements came almost have made the fame of most other men. The difficulty in handling the Cherokees was largely due to the murderous intentions of considerable vious failure of German life from the practical numbers of white men, who each hoped to kill at least one Indian. It was a wanton desire for

a vast number of the men turned out by the ing the objects of this hatred to their new homes. universities. They have been rendered more or War and massacre were generally felt to be inless unfit for occupations in which there is room, evitable. But such was his control over the and are without hope of the work for which their | Indians that he was able to send all the militia that training presumably adapts them. Ever since had volunteered in the hope of war to their homes, GERMANY AND THE GERMANS. By William
Harbutt Dawson, Two volumes, Pp. X, 59; the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the Emperor Frederick put into words his opin- with the exception of a single company of the exception of the excepti ion that education had much to do with the Tennesseeans. The Indians gathered in the camp social question, all eyes have been turned to this provided for them without hesitation, and their matter. The patriarchal aspect of the govern- chiefs proved so willing and trustworthy that he ment must be blamed for the excess in the num- placed the matter of emigration in their hands. ber of students, since it encouraged people in The Tennessee company of volunteers acted as looking to the State for heip. The ambition of police, and a regiment of regulars was at hand parents for their children has contributed to fill | for an emergency which never came. So well the twenty-two universities of the Empire with | was everything provided for that General Scott men, a great number of whom would be better left the task partly completed and turned to off with education of a practical sort. But when the northern border, where the Canadian inthe years have been spent, and the university surgents were making renewed attempts on the has made of the youth what it could, neither he Canadas. As he went north he made arrangenor his affectionate father lays the blame of ill- ments with the Governors of Kentucky and Ohlo success in later years upon himself. The State is for calling out volunteers if necessary. In formation that is scattered in foot-notes of last they take pride in keeping silence on the subject. accused, the State which seemed to encourage Cleveland, Detroit and Sandusky he met the year's volume is collected and arranged in the all the expenditure of time and money with the | people in mass-meetings, and by his persuasions spoken on this topic. But Mr. Dawson points hope of preferment. Altogether, the process is caused them to desist from acts in violation out that the possession of a united country, of one which makes Social Democrats in great of the peace with Great Britain. Then came something to be patriotic for, is barely more numbers. It fills the professions with unsuitable the news of the dispute between New-Brunssomething to be patriotic for, is parely more than a novelty in Germany. It was only in the men, reduces the average income of educated wick and Maine over the northeastern boundary, limited because they are just, require midness. In revision, the men, reduces the average income of educated wick and Maine over the northeastern boundary, limited because they are just, require midness. In revision, the men, reduces the average income of educated with an analysis of the author has fixed more definitely. midst of the anguish and humiliation inflicted workers to a low point, and causes years of delay and Scott hurried to Washington, where he seby the great Napoleon that the aspiration for in the promotion of those who are worthiest. cured from Congress a bill authorizing the Presiby the great Naporeon that the aspiration for German unity was awakened. He points out as The difficulty should bring its own remedy. One deut to call for 50,000 volunteers for six months between Coleridge and De Quincey he reviews his the key to Napoleon's conduct, and to the results unconsciously brought about by him, that vivid students will doubless be making the obligation was was declared. He was so impressed by the to study a more searching one in the universities. Was declared. He was so impressed by the But he now adds a reason which goes to the very and bater remark. This old Europe makes hie That a man should not recognize the professor President Van Buren: "If you want war, I effaced all boundaries on the Continent as he whose lectures he was supposed to be taking. need only look on in silence. The Maine people will effaced all boundaries on the Comment as he that he should not even know the building in make it for you fast and hot enough. I know he remarks, "but long before he began to write the remarks, "but long before he began to write the remarks," way. In Germany he found a country fitted to which those lectures were delivered, are signifiway. In Germany no round a country fixed to his plan in some respects; for Frederick the an argument on the responsibility you no assurance of success. The difficulties in half deprived him of the power of distinguishing be- The North American Review. of the university system itself. The tradition | its way will be formidable." Despite this gloomy which allows a man to study or not, as he outlook he went to Maine and succeeded in pact. The Tribune suggested when it said last neighboring states, as far as his mindence extended, a "sinister cosmopolitanism," owing to, tended, a sinister cosmopoularism, owing to as now prevail. With the privileges of the fillers which, as Goethe put it. "No German can buckle will go the fillers themselves. The ancient glahis shoes before learning how to do it from a will go the fillers themselves. The ancient glamour of student life will be dissipated. Classical in good stead. Sir John Harvey, the Governor of the user of the user of the personality is the theme."

New-Prunswick, had served in the British Army the demand for a more practical education. He in the War of 1812, and owing to various incl.

Mr. Campbell's earlier essay had special value be the demand for a more practical education. He in the War of 1812, and owing to various incilooks for conversion of many Gymnasia into dents a warm regard had arisen between him new and old, respecting Coleridge's affection for Realschulen, and of many of the latter into and Scott. To this friendship was it due that. Mary Evans in the days when he was a student at

> arrillery), his main resource being his own mag-nificent figure, six feet five inches in height, and apparently unconsciously fell in love with the a full uniform. It happened in 1837, a year bethe most serious offences was that of a "Colonel" Van Rensselaer, who, at the head of and sent it over the Palls. In the fight for the possessian of the vessel one American was killed and several were wounded, and it was believed at the time that several injured per-In company with Governor Marcy, of New-York, The troops of the United States were all in Florida or on the frontier, but some recruits were found in this city and sent forward. Governor Marcy was ready to call out the millitaof the State. The temper of the people was such pury Buffalo hired a steamboat to aid Van Rousselaer and his party, but Scott took the yeard into the

British and Americans. The best passed on to its destination unmolested.

When Scott took possession of Mexico life conduct was that of a statesman. From Vera Cruz to the capital every victory was signalized by the restoration of law—not foreign law, but that to which the people were accustomed. Only the American invade's and their opponents in arms were held amenable to military rule. When the formal struggle was ended, the conquest found Scott already prepared with his plans for civil government and the financial administration of the country. He knew all about the sources of revenue upon which the Mexican of all. The collection of taxes and the management of interior civil affairs were left to the recognized Mexican officials. Santa Anna, the President of the Republic and the commander of the forces which opposed Scott, resigned his office, and was at once succeeded, as if in time of peace, by the man next in rack. In the collection which was increasantly practised in his later years was shown also in his youth. He of peace, by the man next in rack. In the collection which was increasantly practised in his later years was shown also in his youth. He of peace, by the man next in rack. In the collection which was increasantly practised in his later years was shown also in his youth. He of peace, by the man next in rack. In all years was shown also in his youth. He of peace, by the man next in rack. In the collection which was increasantly practised in his later years was shown also in his youth. He of peace, by the man next in rack. In the collection which was increasantly practised in his later years was shown also in his youth. He of peace, by the man next in rack. In the collection which was increasantly practised in his later years was shown also in his youth. He of the collection of taxes and the management of the Republic and the commander of the forces which opposed Scott, resigned his office, and was at once succeeded, as if in time of peace, by the man next in rack. eign residents, for he looked upon these interests as ultimately identical with those of the United States. He may even have thought at the time that the conquered country would become a permanent possession, for he looked forward to means of facilitating the organization of a financial system and to an uftimate in-crease of the revenue.

come a permanent possession, for he looked forward to means of facilitating the organization of a financial system and to an ultimate in But these practical qualities are acted decidently and the property of the property o

duction. There is no available employment for while he took the necessary measures for remov- troubles of the Federal Government will be at an end?"
"No," was the reply, "for a long time thereafter it will require the exercise of the full powers of the Federal Government to restrain the fury of the noncombatants."

COLERIDGE.

MR. CAMPBELL'S BRIEF BIOGRAPHY.

SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE. A Narrative of the Events of His Life. By James Dyke Camp-bell. Pp. xil. 329. Macmillan & Co.

Those who read Mr. Campbell's introduction to his edition of Coleridge's poems published last year, will not find the general outline nor the substance of that essay changed in the more elaborate biography now separately printed. The author had investigated his subject too carefully for that to happen. But he has now gone more into detail. Inpression has been changed, sometimes apparently for the sake of style, but often perhaps for the purpose of relieving the harshness of judgments which, because they are just, require mildness. In revishis own opinions upon many points. For example, bottom of all De Quincey's atterances on every subject. "I do not for a moment mean to suggest that and later sketch prepared by the historian and De Quincey consciously misrepresented anything," siven to Mr. Martin Brimmer, about Coleridge his own indufgence in opium-eating tween facts and fancles." This is in effect what

Higher Burgher schools. There will be less as Governor of New-Brunswick, he made constructed the first Hostial and at Cambridge. Notherly can Latin, little or no Greek, and on the other hand cossions that mollified the resentment of the study that episode in Coleridae's career without study that episode in Colerific's career without suspecting that it had much to do with the wrongdoing and the misfortunes of his life. As a lad he An English grievance is the invasion of clerks was that in which he kept the peace with a few from Germany, and Mr. Dawson takes the occasion to point out that these men get on just arilliery), his main resource being his own magnetic for the boy, who, if not as lonely as Lamb said he was, must arilliery and the land of the most remarkable of Scott's exploits designed a frequent visitor at the house of Mary Evans's mother. It was a joyous retreat for the boy, who, if not as lonely as Lamb said he was, must arilliery and the first of the boy was must because of their land of the most remarkable of Scott's exploits designed a frequent visitor at the house of Mary Evans's mother. It was a joyous retreat for the boy, who, if not as lonely as Lamb said he was, must because of the most remarkable of Scott's exploits. Speaking afterward rather lightly, he artist rather than the art a full uniform. It happened in 1837, a year be- drughter. Speaking afterward rather lightly, he fore the affairs just mentioned, that the French - said this was a matter of course. What is pushing He was rudely awakened at last by the surmiss, if not the certainty, that she was about to marry another. In the anguish of this discovery and under the pressure of some dobta, Coleridge ran away a party of Americans, took possession of a from the university and enlisted in the King's Regismall Island in the Niagara River which be-longed to Canada, and hired a steambout to run ity was that he would thus disappear forever from between his tittle realm and the American shore of the river. The Canadians captured the beat dramoning was certain to be a failure with blue. back into the university, he may have supposed that pons were carried over the Palls. There was was mistaken. Then he appealed to Mary Evans with enough on both sides of the international by letter, and thus, in Mr. Campbell's view of the local inclination inclient, made her aware for the first time of his lette with a letter with a worthy of screams response. Her reply was long de-layed, but it appears from his own neknowledg-ment to have been as kind and thoughtful as possi-ble. Mr. Campbell will have it that her letter "was declated by the o'd stately affection minufed with N. B.—All warranted original. mid removes, and was expressed in terms of the warmininess." At all events, it satisfied forcing the duty of observing the President's proclamation. Some discontented spirits in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's proclamation. Some discontented spirits in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the President's content of the wind it is only in the original forcing the duty of observing the president of the original forcing the original forcing the president of the original forcing the origina completed biography, and not in the preliminary estable, that this aspect of the affair is presented. An British commander that he would consider "a chance meeting between the layer and the indiffer-discharge of shot and shell" into American on late as is might. For in that case it was Coletook a position on the highest point along the shore in full uniform, and in full view of both British and Americans. The heat passed on to its destination unmolested.

When Sout has been along the surprise was treat, and it was not unreasonable that C lerike, would be a surprise with the past, should have well-night fainted as he says he did not that the

the forces which opposed Scott, resigned his office, and was at once succeeded, as if in time of peace, by the man next in rank. In all towns occupied by the Americans, the Mexican police was reinstated in harmony with the military police, and the invading army was kept under such admirable discipline that the usual disorders of a military occupation were unknown. Scott held that Mexico must pay the expenses of the invaders; but he desired to levy jhe tribute in a way that should interfere as little as possible with the interests of either native or forcing residents, for he looked upon these linter. the began his Hertary current by almosmaling a work in two volumes containing translations from modern Latin poets, and the result was merely a fragment or two of finglifive poetry. Hayne says somewhere that De Quincey's failure to do some of the great which he planned was due to opium. But it is hard to believe that, in the light of a minute sindy such as Mr. Campbell has given of a personality saturated with landamam. Coleridge's memory of his childhood was as vivid and his confessions of the great Powers of the world, because they ory of his childhood was as vivid and his confessions. sonality saturated with landanum. Coleridge's memory of his childhood was so vivid and his confessions in mature life were so articles that his psychological history is practically compare for a phenomenally long period. Mr. Camubell's narrative may be read through without the discovery of a single eccentricity in the man that was not germinally in the boy. When he said of himself that as a boy of six he bocame a dreamer and acquired an indisposition to all bedley activity, that "sensibility, imagination, vanity, sloth and feelings of deep and bitter contempt for almost all who traversed the orbit of his understanding, were even then prominent and manifest, he said of the child what Carlisis said in a more flattering way of the man who "six on Highgate Hill like a sage escaped from the inaulity of life's battle." As the boy was, so was the man, who could never refrain from gazing at his reflection in a mirror.

Mr. Campbell medestly hopes that his book may serve unth "the appearance of the full blography which is expected from the hands of the poet's grandson, Mr. Ednest Hardley Coleridge." Mr. Coleridge's work will surely be welcome. But no more claburate book can take the new cambers beach can take the new cambers and the new cambers and the new cambers and the new cambers and the cambers and the cambers and the cambers and the cambers are cambers and the ca

one in the circuit, and receives two from the family preceding him on the printed list. In this way the books make the rounds of the houses in thirty-eight weeks, every family having a fortnight for reading each pair.

The books are arranged in pairs, one being a novel and the other a volume of travel, history, blography or essays. The books of the current year are preferred and are purchased by a committee at a discount of 30 per cent. With these facilities for economic buying, the club members are enabled to read expensive imported books in addition to current American publications, and to purchase them at the annual sale below the retail price.

club, while successful financially, operates The club, while successful financially, operates satisfactorily in promoting regular babits of reading. Once a fortnight two new books are carried to every household. The knowledge that they will be on the table only two weeks stimulates every member to take them up promptly and to read them. In this way the best books of the year are brought within the reach of many families, and every one in the circuit has the comfortable feeling that he is keeping abreast with the literature of the time. Doubtless there are many other book clubs conducted on similar lines, but the operation of the Midwent Club has been so satisfactory to all its members that I have ventured to refer to it in detail in your columns. Possibly this notice may be instrumental in increasing the number of book clubs in town and country, and in multiplying facilities for intellectual recreation and culture.

LITERARY NOTES.

The autobiographical sketch which Fancis Parkman some years ago confided to Dr. George Elwhen he comes to discuss the relations that existed. His forms the most important paper in the forthoming collections of the Massachusetts Historical This sketch gives a graphic description of the difficulties under which Mr. Parkman carried through his historical work, and it has been made complete by the addition of portions of a second

> ne will deny," says Margaret Deland, in ing-room on a Thursday morning, and if you had t a book once turned from the windows in search of interest,

world to which it is pleases, "trut," the

new book is to be still longer delayed; that it will

issued in five volumes, the first of which is nearly Bufus King's grandson, Dr. Charles R. King, is the author and editor, A somewhat humorous "list" in the handwriting of Robert Southey was sold the other day in Lon-

from Keswick, January 3, 1839. It runs thus:

th a metho or text of Seeprore.

than extract from the writer's nostry in the poetry unpublished. I the poetry composed for the oc-

Mr. Thomas Hardy's new novel, which is now

States Under the Constitution" is to be enlarged by Mr. Lincoln's Administration.

General Lew Wallace is to read extracts from his "Authors' Readings" which will enlive the Music Hall next Tuesday evening. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Mr. Cable, Mr. du Chaillu, Mr. Wallace Bruce and Mr. J. K. Bangs will also recite portions of their

nership in all science, a partnership in all art, a partnership in every virtue and in all perfection" represented that which was common to all these several governments. It is a State dedicated to the whole task of developing an ideal chizenship. It is a unique instance in history. It indi-

bookwarm was able to carry on his work of destruc-tion namolested. As far back as 1821 the Minister of the Coionies, who has charge of the papers, fear-ing that the bookwarm might attack the archives, directed the Governor of Seville to remove all the other offices from the "Lonja" and devote it ex-clusively to the documents, which were to be better arranged and distributed. But the Governor failed to carry out the Minister's instructions, and the discovery of the damage has been made too late. A report will be made upon the confliction of the documents, but it is feared that many of the most valuable are practically destroyed, and the informa-tion which they contained forever lost.

THE "EASY CHAIR."

BESIDE A PINE DESK IN THE HARPER COMPOSING-ROOM.

PRINTER'S MEMORIES OF MR. CURTIS-HE LOVED THE BUSTLE OF THE WORKMEN.

"Never mind; you'll get your obituary!" One used to hear this consolatory saying in the composing-room at Harper's-in the big room filled with thought about thought. There a hundred men break manuscript into chapters, paragraphs, sentences, words; pick words to pieces; find bits of metal that represent each piece—each letter, each conventional token that the letters are married in words or thelonging to separate words) are no more to each other than are chance neighbors in a rallway train; with discretion, with intelligence, quietly, under imperceptible but real government, one hundred men putting together notched slips of metal. And presently, if you are resting there, after stairway, and if you are sympathetically looking on in the composing-room-not inquisitively, but as workingman among workingmen-you see how perishable; imperishable the union of letters into words, of words into sentences, chapters; and finally the whole work, the entire purpose and will of the author, made one indivisible thing-just one thing. like one letter, forever and ever: thoughtful recreation of each creative impulse in this serious roors which, for the rest, is more orderly and clean than other composing-rooms, but oldish-looking, with many dim windows on two sides and with dim skylights; with its own good stories of the good fellows who have worked at its cases; with its traditions already.

A few years ago, if you had visited the composi-

finished belongs to the there would have been one point to catch and hold your attention; a desk next to the foreman's desk given," and may be -an old desk battered, ink-stained; never a very criticised as the public grand desk, but substantial; in fine, a desk, good pleases. "fut," she for writing; and a man at the desk writing-writing things for every one, everywhere, to read with book be good or bad, delight and to keep on reading until people shall the newspaper has no stop being pleased with delightful things. Once in right to the author—so long, at least, as, in the eye of the law, he ing-room for good and all; he would write an obtain behaves himself. Yot uary notice, "Even these things," the Latin poet personal journalism to-day is taking posses-of pleasure one of these days." At any rate, we sion of the author; it may touch the theme without depressing insistis putting a subtle ence now. This would be the manner of it: When polson into his veins; it Mr. Curtis had come in for his Thursday morning is misleading him as to in the composing room, a proofreader or compositor the relative value of his work and his personality; it is fostering vanity; in a word, it is exploiting the artist rather than the art. that it was necessary to know; and that would be all, until the next number of "Harper's appeared, containing a tribute to the dead man's bined wisdom and more intimate knowledge of his The "Life and Correspondence of Rufus King" one hundred associates. Of course, this happened will be brought as rapidly as may be from the press of G. P. Putnam's Sons. The work is to be in "The Weekly" if you look through the files. And because "there isn't much in the printing business," as the compositors say of their own lifesaying they get only about as much toward the end of it as they get soon after beginning-some-times one of the men would be discouraged; or, perhaps, something irritating would happen; and then (a few years ago) would be heard the saying:

Mr. Southey, writer of autographs, in consequence of the great and unsellcited employment which he has obtained in that line of business bers leave to ay before his friends and the public the followthat he would not feel at home in it, and that somef s.d. that he would not tee a ...
6 3 4 how to be near the type and the typesetters exercisel a benign influence on him, and greatly aided him in his work.

"And so every week George William Curtis came

11 6 to be a regular visitor to the composing-room, ex-changing with all whom he met the kindlest greet-ings, from the boy to the oldest man there. Per-5 5 0 haps the place grew a little quieter than usual 7 17 6 when he arrived, though he always said the noise did not disturb him. Such was the unfailing sunshine of his nature that he was never seen to be Mr F Marion Crawford's new book is to be il- in a bad humor, but brought a smiling face and

service of the Government. The Canadians threatened to destroy her, and Scotj warned the British commander that he would consider "a These unlucky wights who are not authors may to pause in its preparation. If he needed a quota-Between the ploughboy when he enters the army for his three years' service, with his heavy, awkward, shouching gait, and the makers, awkward, shouching gait, and the makers "as an act seriously connected and the contrast is waters" as an act seriously connected and the first was no need for him to consult the makers "as an act seriously connected and the first was no need for him to consult the makers "as an act seriously connected and interest two waters "as an act seriously connected and interest the was no need for him to consult the matters are "three are "three him. His successor, if he had lived, would, in Mr. Dawson's opinion, have been less of a million and this contrast is not brought was curious enough to consult the matters are "three him. His successor, if he had lived, would, in Mr. Dawson's opinion, have been less of a million of complete was no need for him to consult the matters "as an act seriously wrote it down off-ing the way of pleasing an auther, and the three in the matters are "three him. His successor, if he had lived, would, in Mr. Dawson's opinion, have been less of a million of complete was no need for him to consult take Mr. Clentury" that there are "three him. His successor, if he had lived, would have aimed the first was no need for him to consult take Mr. Clentury" that there are "three him. His successor, if he had lived, would have aimed the first was no need for him to consult take Mr. Clentury" that there are "three him. His successor, if he had lived, would have aimed to be a fir No. 1 admits you to his respect; No. 2 ad- of him, until he was one day asked how he manmus you to his admiration: No. 3 carries you clear | aged to write his articles with such seeming ease, 'Oh, I think it all out in advance,' said he, 'and when I commence to write the ideas come even faster than I can put them on the paper."

"Pausing sometimes in the middle of one of his articles, he would read to the proofreader near him a sentence that struck him as being somewhat compilcated, and ask him if he could suggest any clearer way of expressing the idea. The reader would pause in his work, listen attentively to Mr. Curtis, perhaps offer a suggestion, which would in turn be carefully considered; and on its adoption "Ben-Hur" and "The Prince of India" at the he would say, 'Yes; I think you are right; thank you, thank you.'

> To hear Mr. Curtis thus read a portion of his work was a rare treat. The words seemed to pos-sess a deeper and more significant meaning than when rend by any other person. His voice was clear and musical, and there was a sustained tone and enunciation that denoted deep and earnest feel-

may be in process of realization in an unthought-of steadily for some time. He wrote rapidly, and corner of the globe. Professor John Grier Hibben, would soon have half a dozen compositors at work. When the proofs of his elitorials were laid on his desk he would read them carefully, and few were the changes he made. Indeed, in that respect he was remarkable. He seemed to be able to write just

was remarkable. He seemed to be able to write just exactly as he wished on his first attempt.

"When he had duished everything to his satisfaction, he would swing his chair round in a position to face the foreman, and would soon be engaged in an animated discussion of the leading typics of the day. Many anecdotes of men and things were thus told, none of which ever found their way to the printers, and all serve to keep his memory fresh in the minds of the men with whom he worked.

"Mr. (herical)

fresh in the minds of the men with whom he worked,

"Mr. Curtis said one day that when Matthew Arnold was is this country be met him at a barquet in this city. During a conversation Mr. Arnold complained of the harsh criticism he was receiving from the papers in regard to his public addresses, the critics saying that a good many people in his audience failed to hear him, and thereupon he asked Mr. Curtis if he could suggest any way in which he could improve his delivery. I told him, said Mr. Curtis, that when I addressed an audience I selected some one in the hall at the farthest point from me, to whom I directed my attention. If I succeeded in keeping that person interested and attentive, I always felt sure every one else in the hall could hear me clearly.

"Why, to be sure, said Mr. Arnold, I wonder I never thought of that before."

"If anything of a charitable nature was being circulated he was always ready to aid, and none ever went away empty-handled after applying to him.

"When he had closed his cheerful talk, which

when he had closed his cheerful talk, which had been listened to with an attention that must have pleased him somewhat, he would rise in his chair, walk to the water-tank used by the men, carefully wash his hands, and return to one of them, borrow his towel, and while drying his hands engage that particular man in conversation, never failing to make bright and witty remarks that left that person in a happy frame of mind. The using of that man's towel was an act that caused a little good-humored jealousy among the others. Regularly as the day came around on which Mr. Cartis was to appear this man would produce a clean towel, and at the proper time would remove the old one and hang the new one in its place. If any mischievous person removed the clean towel, knowing the use for which it was intended, great indeed was the tribulation caused thereby, and there was no peace until the missing article was restored.

"A great many people called to see Mr. Curtis while he was engaged with his writing. Cards would be sent up, but a polite exuse would be made. One day something out of the ordinary happened. A very enterprising caller managed to get upstairs. Mr. Curtis happened to look up, and causht a glimpse of the man as he entered the door. A sudden wave of annoyance sweat over him, and he was heard to utter—Well, it seems incredible, doesn't it? Perhaps it was something altogether different; at any rate, an instant later he hastily rose from his chair, and that caller must have felt flattered at the warmth and cordinality of the greeting he received.

"And the warmth and cordinality of the greeting he received." him. "When he had closed his cheerful talk, which